

February 20, 2019

To: Chairs, Leaders and Members of the Commerce Committee

We here at Numet Machining in Orange Connecticut are very much in support of the following Bills that are up for a decision point in the near term with your committee. As a growing aerospace company supporting the DOD, Pratt and Whitney and General Electric that operates in an extremely challenging employment market — these bills will aid our endeavors to continue to grow and flourish in the State of Connecticut. There needs to be an extreme focus on the education systems in the state to forge our futures in this great industry.

- SB-854 to ensure high schools get "good grades" from the state for sending kids into manufacturing careers and other training alternatives besides enrolling in college.
- SB-855 to establish a cabinet-level "secretary of manufacturing" to ensure strategic and statewide coordination, collaboration and partnership among the many public private and non-profit entities currently acting in "silos" with no one person being responsible for holistic, effective outcomes; and
- <u>SB-856</u> to ensure a greater role for the manufacturing community in evaluating the need and
  effectiveness of state policies and investments in education, technology and other programs
  designed to help Connecticut manufacturers.

We have grown employment over 45% in the last three years but in order to achieve the doubling we expect the educational systems, investment in manufacturing in the state must continue at record levels to support the achievement of these lofty goals. Please support these three bills!

Sincerely,

Tim Ulles

President/CEO - Numet Machining

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